or occupiers pending the issue of final orders on the revised by-laws and the matter is still under consideration.

(c) & (d) No other application has been received by the Government.

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" May I know, Sir, how long will it take for Government to pass final orders?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" As stated in the printed answer, it is a matter for the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards; but I shall remind him and see that the matter is expedited."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" May I tell the Hon. Minister that a lot of water is being wasted and the people are also put to great inconvenience on account of this?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I shall see that immediate action is taken."

Right of user by the Adi-Dravidas of Malarasur village, Lalgudi taluk, of the waters of the Peria Eri.

* 835 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Peria Eri (big lake) in Malarasur village, Lalgudi taluk, Trichinopoly district, is a public or a private tank;

(b) if it is a public tank whether it is true that Adi-Dravidas were not permitted to draw drinking water from that tank;

(c) whether it is a fact that water in the Chinna Eri (small lake) which the Adi-Dravidas were using for drinking purposes has become saline and unfit for human consumption and that the Adi-Dravidas were prevented from taking water from the big lake on the ground that it was not customary for them to take water from the big lake;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Trichinopoly district and the Commissioner of Labour, Madras, were petitioned by the Adi-Dravidas of that village and as a result it is proposed to sink a new well in the Cheri itself for the use of the Adi-Dravidas; and

(e) whether it is the policy of the Government to save the caste Hindus from being penalized according to the amended Local Boards Act, by sinking new wells for the exclusive use of the Adi-Dravidas?

A.—(a) It is a public tank, but is not maintained by the local board concerned.

(b) It has hitherto been used exclusively by the caste people who maintain it.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) No. A reference has been made to the Panchayat Board in the matter.